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2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
3 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

4 CHRISTOPHER LENARD BLOCKSON,

5 Petitioner,

6 v.

7 JERRY HOWELL, *et al.*,

8 Respondents.
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Case No. 2:21-cv-00731-GMN-VCF

ORDER

11 This action is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
12 § 2254, by Christopher Lenard Blockson, an individual incarcerated at Nevada's
13 Southern Desert Correctional Center. The Court received Blockson's Petition for Writ of
14 Habeas Corpus (ECF No. 1-1) on May 3, 2021. Blockson paid the filing fee for this
15 action on July 7, 2021 (ECF No. 7).

16 The Court has examined Blockson's petition, pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules
17 Governing Section 2254 Cases in the United States District Courts, and the Court
18 determines that it merits service upon the Respondents. The Court will order the petition
19 served upon Respondents and will set a schedule for Respondents to appear and
20 respond to the petition.

21 In his petition, Blockson requests appointment of counsel. "Indigent state
22 prisoners applying for habeas corpus relief are not entitled to appointed counsel unless
23 the circumstances of a particular case indicate that appointed counsel is necessary to
24 prevent due process violations." *Chaney v. Lewis*, 801 F.2d 1191, 1196 (9th Cir. 1986)
25 (citing *Kreiling v. Field*, 431 F.2d 638, 640 (9th Cir. 1970) (per curiam)). The court may,
26 however, appoint counsel at any stage of the proceedings "if the interests of justice so
27 require." See 18 U.S.C. § 3006A; see also Rule 8(c), Rules Governing § 2254 Cases;
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1 *Chaney*, 801 F.2d at 1196. The Court determines that appointment of counsel is
2 unwarranted in this case. Blockson's request for appointment of counsel will be denied.

3 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court is directed to
4 separately file the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (ECF No. 1-1).

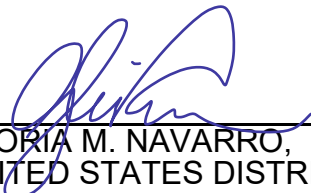
5 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Petitioner's request for appointment of counsel,
6 in his habeas petition (ECF No. 1-1), is **DENIED**.

7 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court is directed to add Aaron
8 Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, as counsel for Respondents and to
9 provide Respondents an electronic copy of all items previously filed in this case by
10 regenerating the Notice of Electronic Filing to the office of the Attorney General only.

11 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondents will have 30 days from the date of
12 this order to appear in this action, and Respondents will have 90 days from the date of
13 this order to answer or otherwise respond to the habeas petition.

14 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if Respondents file an answer, Petitioner will
15 have 60 days to file a reply to the answer. If Respondents file a motion to dismiss,
16 Petitioner will have 60 days to file a response to the motion to dismiss, and then
17 Respondents will have 30 days to file a reply to Petitioner's response.

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19 DATED THIS 8 day of July, 2021.

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23 GLORIA M. NAVARRO,
24 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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